

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 22

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, One of America's leading political commentators and
2 favorite talk show hosts, Tavis Smiley has achieved excellence in
3 broadcasting once again with his highly acclaimed *The Tavis Smiley*
4 *Show* on National Public Radio (NPR); and

5 WHEREAS, The former host of the popular *BET Tonight with*
6 *Tavis Smiley* on Black Entertainment Television, Mr. Smiley
7 contributes political commentary to the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* and
8 is a correspondent for CNN and for ABC-TV's *Good Morning America* and
9 *Primetime Thursday*; the author of five books, including his most
10 recent release, *How to Make Black America Better*, Mr. Smiley also
11 publishes *The Smiley Report* newsletter and serves as a contributing
12 editor for *USA Weekend* magazine; and

13 WHEREAS, Translating his personal accomplishments into
14 public service, this Indiana University graduate has founded the
15 Tavis Smiley Foundation, a nonprofit organization aimed at
16 encouraging, empowering, and enlightening African American youth;
17 among its many projects, the foundation features the Youth to
18 Leaders program, an annual one-day leadership-building conference
19 that takes place in cities across America; in addition, Tavis
20 Smiley Presents, a subsidiary of The Smiley Group, Inc., has
21 produced the historic Black Think Tank series broadcast
22 internationally on C-SPAN; and

23 WHEREAS, This accomplished gentleman has been widely
24 recognized for his myriad contributions to the African American

1 community; named one of *Time* magazine's 50 most promising young
2 leaders, Mr. Smiley has won the NAACP Image Award for Best "News,
3 Talk, or Information Series" for three consecutive years, and he is
4 the recipient of the prestigious Mickey Leland Humanitarian Award
5 from the National Association of Minorities in Communications; and

6 WHEREAS, On January 7, 2002, Mr. Smiley embarked on yet
7 another groundbreaking endeavor when *The Tavis Smiley Show* debuted
8 on NPR on 16 key public radio stations nationwide; the first African
9 American to host his own signature show for the station, Mr. Smiley
10 has created one of the fastest-growing programs in the network's
11 history, interviewing exciting guests ranging from world leaders to
12 pop stars on a broad range of topics; and

13 WHEREAS, With his new show, Mr. Smiley has secured a
14 prominent place in the annals of broadcast journalism, digging to
15 the core of today's issues to discover what really matters to people
16 and further establishing himself as one of this nation's most
17 exciting media personalities and leading political analysts; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
20 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby congratulate Tavis Smiley
21 for his many significant accomplishments and extend to him best
22 wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Mr. Smiley as an expression of high regard by the Texas
25 House of Representatives.